

Amendments to the Claims:

The following Listing of Claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims

1. (Currently Amended) A slidingly detachable core member comprising a body section including:
_____ two or more plate-like portions capable of being combined with each other to form said a hollow cylinder; and
two or more sliding sections in cooperation with said plate-like portions, each individual sliding section having flexibility permitting it to be turned over and laid on an outer circumferential surface of each individual plate-like portion,
_____ said body section further including at least one joint portion pivotally connecting said plate-like portions with each other, said joint portion being free from contact with said sliding sections.
2. (Original) A slidingly detachable core member according to claim 1, wherein said plate-like portions comprise mutually independent parts.
3. (Currently Amended) A slidingly detachable core member according to claim 1, wherein said ~~body section further includes a joint portion pivotally connecting said plate-like portions with each other,~~ said plate-like portions are mutually adjoining in a form of said hollow cylinder.
4. (Original) A slidingly detachable core member according to claim 3, wherein said joint portion is structured to deform under an external force to allow said mutually adjoining plate-like portions to be pivoted.
5. (Original) A slidingly detachable core member according to claim 1, wherein said plate-like portions are respectively provided with engagable end faces capable of being engaged with each other in a form of said hollow cylinder; and wherein said body section further

includes reinforcing portions formed in peripheral end regions, including said engagable end faces, of said plate-like portions for holding said plate-like portions in a form of said hollow cylinder against an external force.

6. (Original) A slidably detachable core member according to claim 5, wherein said reinforcing portions are formed in said engagable end faces, adapted to be engaged with each other, of said mutually adjoining plate-like portions, and respectively include concave and convex configurations detachably fitted with each other.

7. (Previously Presented) A slidably detachable core member according to claim 6, further comprising fastening sections releasably fastening said sliding sections, turned over and laid on said outer circumferential surface of said body section, on said outer circumferential surface.

8. (Currently Amended) A cold shrink tube unit comprising an elastic tube member with an opening end and a hollow cylindrical slidably detachable core member removably provided inside a seal region of said elastic tube member, having a predetermined length from said opening end, to hold said seal region in an elastically expanded state, characterized in that:

_____ said core member comprises a body section including:

_____ two or more plate-like portions capable of being combined with each other to form said hollow cylinder;

two or more sliding sections in cooperation with said plate-like portions, each individual sliding section having flexibility permitting it to be turned over and laid on an outer circumferential surface of each individual plate-like portion of the body section; ~~and~~

said slidably detachable core member is provided inside said seal region with said sliding section interposed between said body section and said seal region of said elastic tube member; and

said body section further including at least one joint portion pivotally connecting said plate-like portions with each other, said joint portion being free from contact with said sliding sections.

9. (Previously Presented) A slidingly detachable core member according to claim 8, wherein each individual sliding section is integrally connected with an axial end of each individual plate-like portion.

10. (Previously Presented) A slidingly detachable core member according to claim 1, wherein each individual sliding section is integrally connected with an axial end of each individual plate-like portion.